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Letter dated 13 February 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the attached note verbale dated 12 February 2014 from the Permanent Observer Mission of the African Union to the United Nations, transmitting the progress report on the implementation of the mandate of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), pursuant to paragraph 8 of Security Council resolution 2093 (2013) (see annex), in which the Council requested the African Union to keep it regularly informed on the implementation of the mandate of AMISOM.

I would be grateful if you would bring the present communication and its attachments to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Annex

The Permanent Observer Mission of the African Union to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and, with reference to the note verbale dated 5 February 2014 addressed by the Commission of the African Union to the United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU), has the honour to transmit a revised version of the progress report on the implementation of the mandate of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), pursuant to paragraph 8 of Security Council resolution 2093 (2013).

Enclosure

[Original: English]

Progress report on the implementation of the mandate of the African Union Mission in Somalia pursuant to paragraph 8 of United Nations Security Council resolution 2093 (2013)

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 8 of United Nations (UN) Security Council resolution 2093 (2013), in which the Council requested the African Union (AU) Commission to keep it regularly informed of the implementation of the mandate of the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). It should be recalled that, on 11 October 2013, the Commission brought to the attention of the United Nations the communiqué adopted by the 399th meeting of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) held on 10 October 2013, on the AU-United Nations Joint Review of AMISOM and benchmarking exercise regarding the possible deployment of a United Nations operation. The present report provides an update on the main developments that took place in Somalia during the period under review, the implementation of AMISOM mandate and other related aspects, as well as steps being taken by the AU to implement Security Council resolution 2124 (2013). The report concludes with observations on the way forward.

II. Major developments

Political situation

2. Somalia is continuing its recovery even though the process remains fraught with challenges. The Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) has pursued its efforts towards the implementation of the Six-Pillar Plan, which was launched in November 2012. As the Security Council would recall, the Plan revolves around the following elements: good governance, economic recovery, social reconciliation, service delivery, building collaborative international relations, and the unity and integrity of the country. Since its inception just over a year ago, the FGS has registered significant progress in security, public finance management, reconciliation, political outreach and in laying foundations of good governance with appropriate legislations in place. In addition, on 16 September 2013, following nationwide consultations, the FGS and the international community reached an agreement on the New Deal Compact outlining Peace building and State-building Goals (PSGs), namely inclusive Politics, Security, Justice, Economic Foundation and Revenue and Services, with respective strategic objectives and key priority areas of focus for support for the next three years.

3. Among the major developments of the period under review, it is worth mentioning the launching, in Mogadishu, from 2 to 6 September 2013, of the Vision 2016 Conference. This Conference adopted recommendations on the review and implementation of the Provisional Constitution, the transition to democratic legitimacy, and the finalization of the Constitution by way of a referendum by December 2015.

4. Another milestone was reached with the Agreement signed, on 28 August 2013, between the FGS and the Interim Jubba Administration (IJA), under the mediation of Ethiopia as the Chair of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

However, on 31 August 2013, the Council of Traditional Elders from the Digil and Mirifle clan issued a statement in Baidoa describing the Addis Ababa Agreement as unconstitutional and claiming that it did not take into consideration the aspirations of their community. Meanwhile, President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud made a historic visit to Kismayo, from 30 to 31 October 2013, which was followed by the Jubba Regions Reconciliation Conference, held in Mogadishu, from 3 to 6 November 2013. President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, the IJA and representatives of retired Colonel Barre Hirale also reached an agreement on 6 November 2013, paving the way for the disarmament, demobilization and eventual integration of Colonel Barre Hirale's militia. The Special Representative of the Chairperson of the Commission (SRCC) for Somalia and Head of AMISOM, Ambassador Mahamat Salah Annadif, following consultations with stakeholders, reached an understanding for the FGS, IJA and AMISOM to establish a technical committee that is expected to look into practical modalities for the reception of Colonel Barre Hirale's militias. On 21 January 2014, the IJA was formally inaugurated, marking a major milestone in the implementation process of the Addis Ababa Agreement.

5. In the Bay region, the Digil and Mirifle clan continued their reconciliation conference, with the hope that at the end of this conference, a regional administration, representing the aspirations of the Digil and Mirifle community will emerge. The Digil and Mirifle community is seeking the creation of a sixth regional state that would include the regions of Bay, Bakool, Lower Shabelle, Gedo, Middle and Lower Jubba. However, this aspiration does not take into account the fact the IJA that is composed of the Gedo, Middle and Lower Jubba regions. On 18 November 2013, the SRCC visited Baidoa. During that visit, he interacted with clan elders and the organizers of the reconciliation conference and urged them to work with the FGS in finding a realistic and durable solution to their problems.

6. On 22 October 2013, the local communities in Hiraan began a conference in Beledweyne aimed at establishing an elected Hiraan Regional Administration. The FGS sponsored conference was however halted due to political disputes that emerged within the executive in Mogadishu.

7. On 12 November 2013, Somalia's Prime Minister Abdi Farah Shirdon announced that there was a rift between him and the President who had asked him to resign from his post. The Prime Minister, however, added that the rift was a constitutional matter rather than a personal rift as was being alleged in public. Consequently, following a motion tabled in Parliament, the lawmakers, on 21 December 2013, voted in favour of the appointment of Abdiweli Sheikh Ahmed as the new Prime Minister, in place of Abdi Farah Shirdon, who had been removed from his post in a vote of no confidence, on 30 November 2013. The new Prime Minister named his cabinet on 17 January 2014 and, on 21 January 2014, Parliament endorsed the cabinet, which is made up of 55 members.

8. On 8 January 2014, the regional state of Puntland successfully held presidential elections, which saw the victory of former FGS Prime Minister Abdiweli Mohamed Ali Gaas, who defeated the incumbent, Abdirahman Mohamed

Farole in votes cast by members of the regional state's Parliament. The new President assumed office on 14 January 2014.

9. In the meantime, the AU Peace and Security Council (PSC) undertook a field visit to Mogadishu, on 25 October 2013. The PSC delegation was led by Djibouti's Permanent Representative to the AU in his capacity as Chairperson of the Council for the month of October 2013. The delegation had a meeting with President Hassan Sheikh Mohamoud, during which they discussed the progress that Somalia has made in recovering from decades of anarchy. The PSC delegation expressed the AU's full support for the efforts of the Somali Government in pursuing peace and reconciliation. On his part, President Mohamoud expressed his Government's appreciation for the support the country had received from the AU, noting that Somalia is hugely indebted to the AU for helping the country emerge from war and for the relative stability it is enjoying. The PSC delegation also toured the AMISOM hospital located at the Halane base, in the southern part of Mogadishu.

Security situation

10. The security situation remains of concern. During the period under review, there have been continued Al Shabaab attacks against civilians, AMISOM and Somali National Security Forces (SNSF), as illustrated by the terrorists' attacks in Nairobi on 21 September 2013, the suicide attacks on 18 October 2013 in Beletweyne on a popular restaurant, the 8 November 2013 attack on the Maka Al Mukarama Hotel in Mogadishu and the 19 November 2013 attack on a police station in Beletweyne near the base of the Djibouti contingent of AMISOM.

11. In addition, long-standing historical clan conflicts resurfaced in Johwar (Middle Shabelle) and Merka (Lower Shabelle). In particular, fighting erupted between the Hawiye-Abgaal and Jareer Bantu in Johwar, leading to the displacement of populations. In Kilometre 50 and Merka, clashes also erupted between the Hawiye-Haber Gedir and Dir-Bilymal militias over power and resources, with resultant displacements also. These clashes are not only posing a challenge for the stabilization of the areas being recovered from Al Shabaab, but are also providing an opportunity for Al Shabaab to strengthen itself as it is skilfully exploiting these divisions by siding with whichever clan is perceived to be the weaker one.

12. During the period under review, AMISOM resumed its operations against Al Shabaab safe havens in the Middle, Lower Juba and Bay regions. The operations are meant to target Al Shabaab training camps and its senior commanders in the tri-border area between Middle Juba, Lower Shabelle and Bay region. On 24 November 2013, AMISOM and the Somalia National Army (SNA) recovered several villages in the Beledweyne district following the fleeing of Al Shabaab fighters from these villages ahead of the arrival of the AMISOM and SNA troops.

13. Meanwhile, conventional Al Shabaab's activities have been concentrated in a zone that lies between the villages of Barawe (Lower Shabelle), Jilib (Lower Jubba), Bardhere (Gedo) and Dinsoor (Bay region). Al Shabaab has also been active in central Somalia, in the regions north of Mogadishu, and the towns surrounding Bulo Burto (Hiran region) and extending west in Bakol region, east to the towns El Bur and El Dheer in Galgadud, and south into rural areas of Middle Shabelle. Furthermore, Al Shabaab is maintaining a presence in the Golis Mountains.

Humanitarian situation

14. The humanitarian situation is still a formidable challenge. It has worsened in Puntland and the Middle Shabelle region, as a result of heavy rains in these areas, leading to the displacement of populations. While President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud has called for urgent relief assistance from the international community, response has so far been both slow and inadequate. On its part, AMISOM donated 33 boxes of assorted drugs to the FGS as part of its relief efforts and is currently housing, at is base in Jowhar, 11,375 Internally Displaced People (IDPs), in dire conditions.

III. AMISOM deployment and activities

15. The force strength of AMISOM military component deployed across the four sectors stands at 22,056, out of the authorized 22,126, due to rotations. The troop in theatre are composed as follows: 6,220 Ugandan soldiers; 5,338 Burundian soldiers; 3,664 Kenyan soldiers; 1,000 Djiboutian soldiers; 850 Sierra Leoneans; 75 Force Headquarters Staff Officers, and 4,395 Ethiopian troops, who integrated AMISOM command and control on 1 January 2014. The strength of the police component stands at 514 consisting of 230 Individual Police Officers (IPOs), 279 elements in the Formed Police Units (FPUs) from Nigeria and Uganda, as well as 5 officers that make up the Police Senior Leadership Team (SLT). A detachment of 12 IPOs each has been deployed in Baidoa and Baletwyne, while another detachment of 12 IPOs is on standby for deployment to Kismayo. The civilian personnel strength includes 52 local and international staff, as well as 45 Somali Language Assistants supporting the Mission.

16. In addition to providing support to the FGS in recovering territory from Al Shabaab control, AMISOM continues to work closely with the FGS in activities aimed at extending state authority, specifically, AMISOM has been engaged with clan elders in Baidoa and Kismayo (the Sambara Clans in Jilib and Sacco) with the view to encouraging community level dialogue and reconciliation.

17. Looking ahead, AMISOM will be complementing its military operations with the completion of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) supported with funding from the United Nations Trust Fund for AMISOM. The QIPs are mainly interventions prioritized by the local communities and the Government, especially in the areas of education and community infrastructure development. In this regard, AMISOM has commissioned local contractors who are currently renovating two schools and a bridge. When completed, the schools are expected to cater for about 900 students. The rehabilitation of a local bridge, which links different clans, will contribute to local reconciliation efforts, as well as boost economic development between the two concerned communities.

18. During the reporting period, the FGS adopted the Post-Transition Human Rights Roadmap for Somalia for the period 2013-2015. On 24 September 2013, the SRCC, together with the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative for Somalia, Mr. Nicholas Kay, former Prime Minister Abdi Farah Shirdon, the Independent Expert on the Situation of Human Rights in Somalia, Dr. Shamsul Bari, and four local Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), participated in the High-level Stand-Alone Interactive Dialogue on Somalia at the Human Rights Council in Geneva, mainly to discuss the implementation of the Roadmap.

19. In line with the United Nations Security Council resolutions regarding implementation of the United Nations Secretary-General's Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) in Somalia, AMISOM is working closely with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) and the United Nations Support Office to AMISOM (UNSOA). In this regard, on 16 October 2013, a joint strategy was agreed upon between UNSOM, UNSOA and AMISOM, and a Joint Working Group was established. In view of the need to enhance adherence to the HRDDP, AMISOM, working with UNSOA and UNSOM Human Rights Unit, conducted a training workshop on International Human Rights Standards for the Police Component of AMISOM. Thirty (30) officers drawn from the FPUs and IPOs, who are trainers and mentors to the Somalia Police Force (SPF), benefited from the one-week training in Kampala, in November 2013.

20. The AU Commission is continuing its efforts to encourage initiatives to develop relevant strategies for AU mandated Peace Support Operations (PSOs), using gender mainstreaming as a tool in streamlining and aligning functions, procedures and practices of current and future PSOs towards robust gender considerations. From 9 to 11 November 2013, the Commission convened a workshop that brought together participants from the AU, the United Nations and other partners, in Nairobi. The aim of the workshop was to undertake a comprehensive reflection on the development of an AMISOM-specific strategy that addresses the critical gender gaps in the Mission and to outline specific strategic and operational interventions to address AMISOM internal and external gender concerns. The main output of the workshop was the development of an AMISOM-specific Gender Mainstreaming Strategy. This Strategy aims at building gender competence within AMISOM through the development of appropriate capacity-building and organizational initiatives, integrating a gender dimension into AMISOM's policies, programming and operations through identifying and addressing key gender concerns, and increasing communication and partnership by strengthening stakeholder collaboration and coordination on gender, peace and security in AMISOM.

21. In order to mainstream protection of civilians' considerations into the operations of AMISOM, the Commission developed an AMISOM Protection of Civilians (PoC) Strategy, which was approved in May 2013. In order to implement the policy, the Commission convened a workshop, in Nairobi, from 12 to 13 November 2013, to develop an implementation plan, as well as provide guidance for its implementation and compliance by AMISOM. The workshop, which drew participants from AMISOM civilian, military and police components, the Commission, the United Nations (MONUSCO, UNAMID, United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan-UNMISS, United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations-UNDPKO, UNSOM, UNSOA) and other partners, provided a platform for discussions on protection threats and vulnerabilities in Somalia and the protection activities undertaken by AMISOM and partners.

22. The implementation plan agreed upon is based on the two PoC strategic objectives of the Mission and the tiered approach outlined in the AU draft PoC Guidelines for Peace Support Operations (PSOs) and will be implementable by 2014, including through the establishment and operationalization of the Civilian Casualty Tracking, Analysis and Response Cell (CCTARC) and adherence to the United Nations Human Rights due Diligence Policy (HRDDP). The workshop also

noted that AMISOM requires training and additional financial and human resources to effectively implement the plan.

IV. Implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 2124 (2013)

23. From 26 August to 6 September 2013, the AU and the United Nations, with the participation of a number of other stakeholders, undertook a Joint Review of the AMISOM and a benchmarking exercise regarding the possible deployment of a United Nations operation. The Review was undertaken against the backdrop of a halt in the military operations against Al Shabaab, due to the lack of force enablers and multipliers, as well as the failure to achieve the envisaged level of force generation for the SNA. This, coupled with Al Shabaab's deliberate shift towards asymmetrical warfare since May 2013, led to the deterioration of the security situation.

24. Concluding that conditions were not yet conducive for the deployment of a United Nations operation, the Review recommended the provision of additional capabilities to AMISOM and support to the SNA. The PSC endorsed these recommendations on 10 October 2013, and requested the United Nations Security Council to adopt and authorize measures necessary for the implementation of the recommendations of the Review.

25. On 12 November 2013, the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 2124 (2013) authorizing an increase in the strength of AMISOM, from 17,731 to 22,126 uniformed personnel, as well as support to the SNA. On 26 November 2013, in Addis Ababa, the Commission convened a meeting of the Military Operations Coordination Committee (MOCC), to exchange views on the situation on the ground and agree on the best ways forward to generate additional forces for AMISOM and develop a Revised Concept of Operations (CONOPS) for the coming phase of military operations in Somalia in line with United Nations Security Council resolution 2124 (2013). From 9 to 18 December 2013, in Nairobi, the Commission convened a planning session to finalize the revised CONOPS, which was endorsed by the PSC on 21 January 2014.

26. Following the offer of the Government of Ethiopia to provide the required military personnel, along with equipment, to enable AMISOM to reach its newly authorized strength, and the acceptance of the same, with effect from 1 January 2014, the Commission has been working closely with the United Nations and other partners to finalize the integration of the Ethiopian National Defence Force (ENDF) into AMISOM, including through the necessary predeployment and verification exercises. On 22 January 2014, the AMISOM, Force Commander presided over a Flag Ceremony in Baidoa to formally welcome the 4,395 troops from the ENDF as the sixth military contingent of AMISOM.

V. United Nations logistical support

27. UNSOA continued to facilitate the rotation and deployment of troops, police officers and military staff officers in the Mission in accordance with its mandate. During the reporting period, UNSOA facilitated the rotation of 1,700 Burundian

troops, 2,930 Ugandan troops, and 3,810 Kenyan troops in and out of the Mission area. The joint verification exercises were conducted with the AU during the rotations. In addition, a total of 37 AMISOM headquarters staff officers were rotated out, while 34 staff officers were deployed in Mogadishu. To strengthen coordination between AMISOM and UNSOA, the monthly Senior Mission Leadership Meeting was convened on 21 November 2013 to discuss strategic and operational issues affecting the delivery of the United Nations support package to AMISOM. In terms of the support delivery, a revitalized Joint Support Operations Center (JSOC), under AMISOM control, effectively coordinates the planning and delivery of all logistic support to AMISOM uniformed personnel deployed in the four sectors and to AMISOM civilian personnel deployed in Mogadishu.

28. During the period under review, UNSOA moved 14 Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs) to Mogadishu. These APCs arrived in Mogadishu on 4 November 2013, and are being used by AMISOM Mission headquarters to provide security to the AMISOM Heavy Transport and Engineering Units and AMISOM Mogadishu International Airport (MIA) camp security tasks.

29. The aviation support to AMISOM was enhanced with the provision of one additional Mi-8 helicopter to enhance Medevac and supply of rations in the sectors. The Beechcraft 1900 was also replaced by a higher capacity Dash-7 fixed wings aircraft to handle the increasing passenger and cargo load. Following the offer from the Government of the Republic of Chad to supply AMISOM with combat and utility helicopters, a joint AU-UNSOA technical team travelled to Chad from 8 to 14 October 2013 to undertake the required assessment.

30. During the period in review, UNSOA commenced the expansion of UNSOM/UNSOA camp in Mogadishu, to cater for an additional 90 bed spaces, and the construction of an AMISOM Sector Hub, prefabs and parking lot in Baidoa. The construction of a Sector Hub in Beledweyne also started. In Baledogle, UNSOA commenced the construction of the Aviation Hub and hangers. UNSOA also continued to provide Communications and Information Technology Services (CITS) support to AMISOM. This included the provision of 200 phones for welfare calling project from the Trust Fund in support of AMISOM. Slow Internet connectivity remains a major challenge in CITS support. The UNSOA-managed AU-United Nations Information Support Team (IST) established permanent presence in all the AMISOM four Sectors in south-central Somalia, in order to improve on the provision of strategic communication support to AMISOM and UNSOM.

31. UNSOA continued to provide medical support to AMISOM, carrying out 35 medical evacuation, transfer, redeployment, and repatriation flights, involving 65 AMISOM personnel. The ENDF contingent is expected to provide two (2) level 2 hospitals at Baidoa and Beletwenye, and AMISOM is working closely with UNSOA to develop the necessary infrastructure for these facilities.

VI. Observations

32. Overall, the period under review has been marked by further progress in the peace and reconciliation process in Somalia. These developments should be welcomed and the Somali stakeholders should be encouraged to pursue and intensify their efforts and to put the interest of their country above any other considerations.

33. The AU is grateful to the United Nations and the other international partners, including the European Union (EU), for their continued support to the AU's efforts, and in particular to AMISOM. The adoption of resolution 2124 (2013) marked an important step both in the enhancement of AMISOM and that of the SNSF. The Commission has swiftly taken the necessary steps to follow up on the relevant provisions of the resolution. At the same time, it is critical that donors generously provide funds to the Trust Fund established to support the SNA, as its involvement is critical to the overall success of the military operations in Somalia.

34. The international community should continue to express appreciation to the AMISOM troop and police contributing countries for their continued contribution to the promotion of peace, security and stability in Somalia, as well as to the IGAD countries for their continued engagement.